

REMARKS

In the Office Action issued on August 4, 2005, claims 1-14 and 22-30 were rejected 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,959,015 to Rasinski et al. (Rasinski). Claims 15-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Rasinski in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,566,295 to Cypher et al. Claims 1-22 and 24-30 are now pending in this application. Claims 1, 22, 27 have been amended to clarify the invention.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention according to claims 1-14 and 22-30 is not anticipated by Rasinski. Rasinski discloses an interactive trainer for electronic countermeasures simulation capable of providing displays of in-flight threats and countermeasures responses representative of an actual combat equipment suite. Threat scenarios are stored in computer memory and recalled at a push-button display console. Default parameters may readily be modified by the operator under software control to control aspects of the threat scenarios. The aircraft position with respect to selected threats is displayed in real time superposed on the threat parameters. Displays are identical to that provided by the equipment simulated and reflect the true operational status as preset by the operator.

In particular, at col. 2, lines 63-68, Rasinski discloses a digital memory 16, which includes an electrically programmable memory (EEPROM) into which desired scenarios may be stored in accordance with a known tactical situation. The scenarios can be simulated and the pilot is responsible for taking various actions based on events that occur during the simulation of the scenarios. By contrast, the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, requires a first automatic rule handler automatically executing said rules to control the behavior of an apparatus, a tangible system, or a machine according to a predetermined program for the rule handling by a first rule handler. A scenario is not the same as a rule nor are the parameters that

can be modified. One of skill in the art would recognize that the disclosure of the storage of scenarios and modifiable parameters does not teach the storage of rules for a behavior required by the present invention.

At col. 3, lines 19-22, Rasinski discloses receiving a manual command from a keyboard and which generates a digital signal to enter the simulation mode or revert to normal operation. At col. 4, lines 12-14, Rasinski discloses the threat scenario automatically beginning. By contrast, the present invention, for example, according to claim 1, requires that the device is operable with a first automatic rule handler that is automatically executing rules to control behavior according to a predetermined program for the rule handling. Merely entering simulation mode or automatically beginning a threat scenario is not the same as automatically executing rules according to a predetermined program for the rule handling. One of skill in the art would recognize that the disclosure of entering simulation mode, reverting to normal operation, or beginning a threat scenario does not teach automatically executing rules according to a predetermined program for the rule handling required by the present invention.

Even if entering simulation mode or automatically beginning a threat scenario can be deemed the same as automatically executing rules according to a predetermined program for the rule handling, Rasinski fails to teach a second rule handler which enables a user, by instructions via a second means, to indicate an alternative behavior to a behavior that is to be carried out according to a rule in the set of rules that are automatically executing by the first rule handler and wherein the behavior that is to be carried out according to the rule in the set of rules is restored upon the completion of the alternative behavior. At col. 3, lines 14-18, Rasinski discloses data and control bus that couples command signals from pilot-trainee input and navigational data to a CPU for interacting with a predetermined scenario, and returns data signals representative of the

scenario to a second CPU. Nothing about coupling command signals to a CPU for interacting with a predetermined scenario teaches anything about indicating an alternative behavior to a behavior for a rule of a rule handler that is automatically executing rules, or restoring the behavior for the rule at the completion of the alternate behavior. In Rasinski, once the simulation has begun it will execute in accordance with default parameters or the parameters set by the operator prior to the commencement of the simulation. Inputs by the pilot during the simulation will not alter the operation of the scenario.

Thus, the present invention, according to claim 1 and according to claims 22, and 27, which are similar to claim 1, and according to claims 2-14, 24-26, and 28-30 which depend therefrom, is not anticipated by Rasinski.

The Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention, according to claims 15-21 are not unpatentable over Rasinski in view of Cypher because even if Rasinski and Cypher were combined as suggested by the Examiner, the result would still not be the present invention as claimed. Cypher merely discloses an extensible simulation system and graphical programming method that enables a simulation user to program the behaviors of objects in a simulation while requiring no knowledge of computer programming concepts or languages. Cypher does not disclose or suggest each of the limitations discussed above with respect to claim 1, 22 and 27..

Thus, the combination of Rasinski and Cypher still fails to disclose or suggest these required elements of the present invention. Therefore, the present invention, according to claims 15-21 is not unpatentable over Rasinski in view of Cypher.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is allowable over the references relied upon in the Office Action. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of this case and early issuance of the Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Additional Fees:

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-5127 (25880.0022).

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, all of the Examiner's rejections to the claims are believed to be overcome. The Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and issuance of a Notice of Allowance for all the claims remaining in the application. Should the Examiner feel further communication would facilitate prosecution, he is urged to call the undersigned at the phone number provided below.

Date:

August 1, 2006



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